

BEFORE THE JUDICIAL QUALIFICATIONS COMMISSION  
STATE OF FLORIDA  
CASE NO.: 01-244

INQUIRY CONCERNING JUDGE SUPREME CT. CASE NO. SC01-2670  
CHARLES W. COPE;

**FINDINGS, CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS BY THE  
HEARING PANEL OF THE JUDICIAL QUALIFICATIONS COMMISSION  
REGARDING COSTS**

The Hearing Panel issued its Findings, Conclusions and Recommendations regarding the merits of this matter on August 1, 2002, and requested the parties to submit motions regarding costs. The Hearing Panel received a motion by counsel for Judge Cope seeking costs and a separate motion seeking attorneys' fees. The Hearing Panel also received a motion by the Investigative Panel for expenses relating to facts which had been the subject of requests for admissions.

The Hearing Panel concludes and recommends that both sides should bear their own costs and that attorneys' fees should be denied under In re: Hapner, 737 So. 2d 1075 (Fla. 1999).

Therefore, the Hearing Panel recommends that the Court deny the requests for costs mentioned above and further deny the motion for attorneys' fees. This recommendation does not concern the recently filed pleadings concerning costs and attorneys' fees as filed directly with this Court by Judge Cope

and by the Investigative Panel.

SO ORDERED this \_\_\_\_\_ day of October, 2002.

**FLORIDA JUDICIAL QUALIFICATIONS  
COMMISSION**

By: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

JUDGE JAMES R. JORGENSEN,  
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